CONFIDENTIAL

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

22 May 1

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-61155-4

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MAY 22 1956

TO:

Department of State

Attention: Mr. A. H. Abailen

Office of Investigations Befuges Belief Progress

PROM:

Deputy Director, Plans

SUBJECT: ZAKO, Andreas (Andreas)

- 1. Reference is made to your SI memorandum IRP/Control No. Salaburg 14557, dated 26 March 1956, subject as above, whose name you desired checked against the files of this office. The files contain voluminous, unconsolidated references to Subject. The following represents an abbrevisted statement about the type of activity with which he has been connected since his departure from Hungary toward the end of World War II. A detailed exemination of all references would require several months to complete. Although Subject is not known to have Communist or pro-deviet sympathies, the score and orientation of his activities have made him a controversial figure.
- 2. During World Wer II, Subject was either the head of the Hungarian Military Intelligence Department or one of its most prominent members. At the end of the war he fied to Austria to avoid being contured by Soviet troops. He has since lived in Ametria as a refugee, most recently at Absen, in what was formerly the French Econ of Occupation. During his residence in Austria he has been closely and actively connected with enti-Communist right-ging enters Emgarian elements. These have been grouped together a under various names, the most widely known being that of the Magyer Harkoseg Rejterni Konsconege (Loupes of Respectan Veterans - MERK). At present, Subject is the titular head of the MERK.
- 3. This organization is known to be active in politics and intelligence. Political activity centers on the "registration" of Hungarian emigres in all parts of the world as members of the MIRK. The numbership is thus alleged by the governing committee of the MHRK to represent an organized group of trained men, ready to engage in any sort of enti-Communist activity. Dues are assessed by the MRRK against its members. the resulting fund being used to support "accredited representatives" in verious cities of the world, including, for example, Vetican City. These representatives attempt to persuade governments, political parties, and groups of private citizens to contribute further funds and political

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support for the besis MEK organisation. General EAKO and his supporters have consistently attempted, under various guises, to enlist financial and potential support from memorus government agencies, both in the United States and abroad.

- 4. Shortly efter the end of World Var II, members of the HESK enjoyed relatively good contacts in Hungary, which were exploited as intelligence essets. Information received through these channels was made available to various Western European governments.
- 5. The MHRK has been since its inception an object of interest to the Communist Hungarian Intelligence Service and a target for penetration and disruption. There are no reports evallable, however, that reflect that Subject is emything but basically anti-Communist in political motivation and activity.
- 6. For further information, you are referred to SGES-42309, dated 11 August 1952, subject: Paper Mills and Pabrication.

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Based on: Desk Info.

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